

**Nonpublic School Advisory Committee**  
**October 7, 2014**  
**1:00-3:30**

Attending: Mary Delagardelle, Kim Hermesen, Merrilee Sump, Connor Hood, Wayne Dykstra, Nicole Proesch, Dan Ryan, Joan Thompson, Julie Delaney, Beth Happe, Jay Pennington, Ryan Wise, Phil Wise, Shan Seivert, Tom Chapman, Rita Martens

**1) Attendance Center Rankings (Jay Pennington)**

- Jay Pennington shared a PowerPoint on Attendance Center Rankings
- Accredited nonpublic schools are not included in this legislation requirement
- There are required criteria that will be used. These will be posted on website with an overall school performance rank with labels such as exceptional, needing assistance, etc.
- They will do a ranking by category and then an overall measure.
- Report about this initiative is available on the Department of Education website
- Healthy Indicators C4K have taken over as directing this initiative
- The required measures include:
  - Student Proficiency
  - Academic Growth
  - Attendance Rates
  - Parent Involvement
  - Employee Turnover
  - Community Activities and Involvement
  - Closing Gaps Score
- Optional Measures:
  - Post-graduation data
  - Suspension and expulsion rates
  - Level of student engagement
  - Parent Satisfaction
  - Parent Engagement
  - Staff Working Conditions
- There weren't detailed measures for all of these in the past
- Recommendations include:
  - Combine accountability and improvement to be successful
  - Transparency and simplicity should be targets
  - Technical assistance and support are needed to drive improvement

- Collaboration is needed
  - Consensus approach
  - Goal is to go beyond ranking for strategies for schools to improve. Not intended for blame and shame.
- Timeline & Next Steps
  - Jan. 2015 Limited Public Reporting—Proficiency, Growth & Gap (limited reporting)
  - Full system with categories will be out in October of 2015
- Proficiency and Growth Correlations-Message is every student has the opportunity to grow:
  - Proficiency and Low SES  $-.654$
  - Growth and Proficiency  $0.168$
  - Growth and Low SES  $-.015$
  - Growth and % White  $.042$
  - Proficiency and % White  $.363$
- **Nonpublic Question:** Could we self evaluate?? We could calculate our own based on limited factors, they would have attendance rates if we submit to SRI, they wouldn't have parent involvement—they are piloting an instrument. We would need to decide what data we have to use.

## 2) **Policy Legislative Update** (Shan Seivert, Phil Wise, Ryan Wise)

- Many new legislative initiatives in the past couple of years. (ie: Teach Iowa, Competency Based Education, ELL, etc.)
- We should contact with [Ryan.Wise@iowa.gov](mailto:Ryan.Wise@iowa.gov) with general communication issues. He will come back with a follow-up at anytime if we need more information.
- Many of our schools did participate in Teach Iowa and that was positively received.
- The message from the DE is to stay the course as there are 8-9 new programs and the focus needs to be on doing implementation well.
  - Continued implementation is teacher leader compensation (TLC)
  - Supplemental Assistance for high needs schools (\$10 Million dollars)
  - Early Literacy Instruction/Iowa Reading Research Center/Early Warning System (ELI)

### **Nonpublic Concerns:**

- We shared concerns about communication and making clear whether something affects us. (Universal Preschool, Blue Ribbon Recipients, etc.)
- Julie Delaney shared how the TLC program impacted her school. She lost 6 teachers who wouldn't have left in the past as they were now given credit for

up to 20 years of experience. Phil Wise and Nicole Proesch explained that the PLC law was written for public schools only. Maybe ESA's could put us back in the ballpark to provide better compensation for teachers.

- Tom Chapman explained that we asked for additional funds for nonpublics textbook and technology.
- Dan Ryan emphasized the importance of transportation funding to be increased.
- Luvern Gubbels asked why our schools need 3 years instead of 2 years for initial license. Phil shared and clarified the 272.28 Mentoring and Induction requirement. The 3 years for our teachers is a matter of statute and 272.28 would have to be amended or we would have to create a mentoring program that could get approved by the State Board of Education.

### 3) **Tiered Accreditation** (Mary Delagardelle and Beth Happe)

- Shared two documents about school accreditation
- Key concepts
  - Tiered supports (one size doesn't fit all)
  - Healthy Indicators (ie: proficiency, staff turnover, etc.)
  - Earned Autonomy
  - Collaborative Inquiry Questions
  - A single continuous improvement process
  - Streamlined reporting
  - Emphasis on results for Iowa Learners (put energy where it has the most positive effect for kids—ie: research doesn't show retention is helpful.)
- Earned Autonomy-how much support do you need?
  - Priority
  - Needs Improvement
  - Acceptable
  - Commendable
  - High Performing
  - Exceptional
- What does this mean for schools/what does law and code require?
  - \*\*\*\***This does include the accredited nonpublics.**
  - Yet to be determined if 5 year cycle will remain-likely to be changed
  - Maybe pilot visits in 15-16 (decided by Dec. 2014)
  - This is totally separate from attendance center rankings—but some of the data would be similar.
  - Is there a representative from nonpublics on the accreditation committee? (DE will check on this.)

#### **4) ELI Implementation**

- a. The fall window closes at the end of this week.
- b. Roll out has been a bit of a roller coaster
- c. 82% of students have had screening administered
- d. They have 40 nonpublic locations that are actively testing and 11 places w/ technology issues. Of the 40 nonpublic sites they have tested also about 82% of kids have been tested---same percentage as public schools. The lowest percentages are at the smallest schools.
- e. They have learned over the month that there were several nonpublic administrators thought they were required to do this—and they aren't.
- f. No summary data has been done yet.
- g. Steep learning curve on student information systems, staff roles, student id's, etc. (It was very important/time consuming to clean up the files.)

#### **5) Iowa Core Update (Rita Martens)**

- a. Iowa Core Resources Projects—at request of Governor to provide resources to schools
- b. New Website goal: to develop and maintain a user-friendly website to promote and support implementation of the Iowa Core (one stop shopping) \$1 Million funding for this website and procure resources for Literacy and Mathematics. (Couldn't be used for professional development---this funding was for tools).
- c. The website is going live soon. It will be rolled out in stages.
- d. There will be a digital repository called "Iowa Learns". This will have resources for parents and fact sheets on what their child should be learning.
- e. They purchased and procured some resources for staff members. Over 7000 resources for Literacy and Math.
- f. The pool of purchased materials is small-need an AEA password to access to them. Most resources are free and you can access as a guest.
- g. Rita demonstrated what the website includes and the resources available. There are 16 spotlights (testimonies by teachers, students, and community members). Purpose is to make it more personalize and de-vilify the Iowa Core.
- h. They will attempt to share with curriculum directors across the state.
- i. Science & Social Studies—we have a nonpublic representative on each of these two committees. The Science committee will have more flexibility to adjust standards. Timeframe for Science is to have first meeting in November recommendation by March or April and a recommendation could be made over the Summer of 2015. (Best case scenario).

6) **1080 Hours vs 180 Days** (Nicole Proesch)

- a. IASB had a policy primer that was misleading and it has been reissued (we received copies)
- b. Page 3/School Calendar-is still a bit confusing
- c. **Professional Development DOES NOT COUNT towards hours**
- d. Kim asked question about BEDS defaulting hours back to days and they will look into that.

7) **Child Care** (Mary & Nicole)

- a. 3 pieces of code
  - i. A Board can operate or contract childcare center on behalf of a district. 279.49 (If it's operated by board and is on school property it can choose DE or DHS)
  - ii. A Nonpublic can operate child care 280.3A
  - iii. DHS Certification
- b. Up until a year ago the State was unaware of any unlicensed centers. People told DHS that they were going to DE but no one calls DE.
- c. DHS got a complaint and called DE---but it wasn't a DE or DHS center.
- d. They spent a year trying to clean up information from BEDS about certification.
- e. There were gaps in guidance of before/after school guidelines and they made decisions in May.
- f. DE certified schools were to turn in desk audits.
- g. No state staff assigned to this.
- h. The PK standards have been in place for a while. The Before/After School standards were redone and passed in May.
  - i. 3 age ranges of students
  - ii. QPPB Standards
- i. The State has proposed language to strike the language—they don't necessarily have the staff to duplicate what DHS is doing.
  - i. Might stay as it is
  - ii. Language could be struck
  - iii. Maybe only choice for DE would be for school age children only
- j. There will have to be a transition period—but crucial safety issues must be met.

8) **Iowa Assessment Task Force** (Mary Delagardelle)

- Recommendation by January of 2015
- Committee has been very thorough
- Choices that made Round 2:
  - Smarter Balanced (Vendor-DRC)
  - Next Generation Iowa Assessments
- Will meet in Nov. and Dec. to get ready for January recommendation
- After State Board then it will go to Legislator

9) **Grade Retention** (Mary Delagardelle)

- a. Question: What happens if a 3<sup>rd</sup> grader is to be retained but moves to a nonpublic—what would happen? Answer: They would move on.  
(We are not required to retain.)

10) **Summer School** (Mary Delagardelle)

- a. Can a nonpublic student attend a public school summer school.  
Answer: Yes.
- b. The Iowa Reading Research Center is working on defining the summer school program.

**Next Meeting-Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 in Grimes Building**